

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation and journalistic bias.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies have such substantial media holdings, they tend to become arrogant and self-serving. What results is disabuse of a precious covenant of our democracy.

As a VietNam era veteran, I have a personal interest in seeing the principles of our democracy upheld. This means to do the right thing; and not condone further distortion of the public record for political purposes.

Sinclair's intention to force 'their stations' to broadcast what amounts to an attack-ad, under the guise of 'news', just prior to national elections, is grossly misleading. The events of the VietNam war, as previously stated, are a matter of public record. It is therefor a violation of ethics for 'the media' to foster partisan propaganda on the public regardless of personal persuaision.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Thank you